



Natural Resources Conservation Service
P.O. Box 2890
Washington, D.C. 20013

NHCP-1AI

NATIONAL HANDBOOK OF CONSERVATION PRACTICES

450 – VI

NOTICE 140

Purpose. This notice transmits new or revised conservation practice standards for insertion into the National Handbook of Conservation Practices (NHCP). In addition, notes are included for clarification.

Effective Date. This notice is effective when received.

Explanation. New or revised National Conservation Practice Standards (NCPS):

Residue and Tillage Management, No Till/Strip Till/Direct Seed (Code 329): The General Criteria that sets the maximum allowable Soil Tillage Intensity Rating (STIR) value was expanded to clarify how the STIR value is calculated for cropping systems that include fallow periods.

Cover Crop (Code 340): A purpose to reduce and minimize soil compaction has been added, as well as criteria to support this purpose.

Silvopasture Establishment (Code 381): This practice was revised to include additional references to broaden its geographic use. There were minor editorial changes in the remainder of the standard.

Prescribed Forestry (Code 409): This is a new standard providing criteria for a forest prescription that will perpetuate a sustainable forest ecosystem. This practice will facilitate development of forestland management guidelines addressing both resource concerns and landowner objectives.

Spring Development (Code 574): This practice has been significantly modified from the previous version. Changes have been made to both criteria and formatting.

Nutrient Management (Code 590): The criteria for determining the nutrient content of manure, organic by-products and biosolids have been expanded to require a minimum number of samples.

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DIST: S, R, L, and National Center Directors

The criteria for the application rate of these types of material have been expanded, with separate sections for nitrogen and phosphorus application rates. Some material that was previously in the Criteria section has been moved to the Considerations section.

Instructions. Replace the Contents pages i through vi dated January 2006 in the NHCP with the attached revised Contents pages.

Insert the new or revised standards in the NHCP in alphabetical order as designated on the revised Contents pages.

Remove and archive, as appropriate, the practice standards for: Residue and Tillage Management, No Till/Strip Till/Direct Seed (Code 329) dated May 2005, Cover Crop (Code 340) dated October 2003, Silvopasture Establishment (Code 381) dated May 2004, Spring Development (Code 574) dated August 2000, and Nutrient Management (Code 590) dated October 2003.

Copies of this notice and the attachments are being sent to all State offices (or equivalent) and National Centers. Additional copies may be obtained by ordering NHCP-1AI from the NRCS Publications Web page at <http://landcare.sc.egov.usda.gov/> or by calling 1-888-LANDCAR.

This notice and each of the conservation practice standards included with this notice can be accessed electronically. Access can be through either the NRCS homepage on the World Wide Web at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/Standards/nhcp.html> or from the FTP server at <ftp://ftp-fc.sc.egov.usda.gov/NHQ/practice-standards/standards/>

Federal Register Notices.

The National Conservation Practice Standards Subcommittee (NCPSS) published notice of intent to revise or adopt these standards in the *Federal Register* in January 2006. Comments from the public were accepted for 30 days.

Guidance to the States can be found in Title 450, Technology, General Manual, Section 401.19 for complying with the provisions of the 1996 Farm Bill that require advertising for public comment prior to revising NRCS State technical guides.

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Attachments

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